

CITY OF COVINGTON
PLANNING COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

January 10th, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jared Rutberg, Chair
John Travis
John Maxwell
Bobbie Shepherd
Shawn McGovern
Callie Carter

STAFF PRESENT:

Marc Beechuk, Planning and Development Director

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Travis Moore
Felicia Sanders
Ruel Parker
Tim Fleming

1. CALL TO ORDER / OPENING REMARKS:

Jared Rutberg called the meeting to order at 6:03pm, stated the Robert's Rule of Order, and welcomed all in attendance.

2. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

Jared Rutberg stated a quorum was present. Six (6) members in person.

3. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Text Amendment:

1. Sidewalk Bank Ordinance – Text Amendment / Adoption:

Requirement for development to provide financial contribution in lieu of sidewalk installations in locations that will not contribute to the city's sidewalk network nor serve as a pedestrian amenity.

Presenter Marc Beechuk stated the background and language for Text Amendment. With recent infill development a few properties have been required to build sidewalks with no connection to the greater network. Leadership would like to see sidewalk development in residential areas where it can connect to an existing network or on newly platted subdivisions. Staff is recommending approval.

DELIBERATION AND MOTION:

- Jared Rutberg mentioned that this was an issue a few years back when homes were renovated on Emory and at that time it was decided that a sidewalk to nowhere did not benefit the city.
- Shawn McGovern asked if this was necessary in light of possible impact fees that are being researched. Couldn't we just issue variances in the meantime
- Staff member Beechuk answered that impact fees are not a given, but if they are implemented much code language change would be required anyway. Additionally, setting a precedent for granting variances with no hardship could put the city in a precarious position going forward.

John Travis made a motion to approve. Shawn McGovern seconded. Motion passes 4-0

4. PLANNING MANAGER REPORTS: Marc Beechuk – none

5. Discussion from Board - None


6. **ADJOURNMENT:** Shawn McGovern made a motion to adjourn. Bobbie Shephard seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Time – 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by:



Jared Rutberg, Chair

14 Feb 2023
Date



Saleha Ward, Planning Specialist

2.14.23
Date